



The Transformer

TWG Meets in Columbia July 10-11

The Governor-appointed Transformation Working Group (TWG) Leadership met in Columbia on July 10-11 to review the recommendations of the six content working groups. The information discussed is compiled in the [Final Workgroup Recommendations Report to Transformation Working Group](#). A TWG subgroup meets in early August to refine the full TWG priorities and recommendations based upon the input and discussion at the July meeting. The final TWG recommendations will be available in August and the focal point of the Transformation Road Show (story below). Special thanks to our more than 240 experts and their co-chairs from the public and private sector who contributed their time and talents in the six content workgroups: Consumer and Family Driven Services; Disparities are Eliminated; Easy, Early Access; Evidenced-Based Practices; Mental Health is Essential to Overall Health and Technology.

DMH FY09 Budget Mirrors Transformation Priorities

The Department of Mental Health FY09 Budget priorities are [posted for public comment](#). Pages 4-8 detail key mental health issues relevant to Missouri's FY09 Budget. Transformation workgroup members will recognize several of these initiatives which mirror many of their priorities and recommendations. DMH seeks public comment through July 30, especially from consumers, family members and providers. See the last page of the document.

Our First E-Newsletter

Welcome to our readers! We've crafted this electronic communication to keep in touch with the Transformation Working Group (TWG) Leadership, the content workgroup professionals, our consumer and family member experts and all of you who have expressed an interest & passion in transforming mental health services for all Missourians. We hope your summer is going well and that you are discussing Transformation with your family, friends and colleagues throughout your community.

Who are we? Funded by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Office of Transformation is based at the Dept. of Mental Health to staff and support Missouri's Transformation Initiative and the TWG. This public/private sector initiative is led by the TWG transforming mental health services throughout Missouri through collective planning, vision and implementation. Want to know more? Please visit our website for more details and regular updates.

Transformation Road Show Begins August 21 in Caruthersville

Our colors & symbolism:



Our efforts honor Geody Frazier, a consumer leader from Kansas City appointed to the TWG, who passed away in May 2007. Geody designed the color scheme to symbolize:

- **Green:** Transformation, Resiliency, Self-determination & Growth
- **Blue:** Hope & Overcoming Stigma
- **Combined Colors:** Awareness & Pride in our Collective Power.

Look for us in your area in [August](#) and [September](#).

Transformation co-chairs Diane McFarland and Benton Goon will be seeking public input on the Missouri Mental Health Transformation initiative throughout the state. An overview of the TWG priorities and recommendations will be presented followed by a question and answer session. Each session will last up to two hours. Currently 13 meetings are scheduled throughout the state. We ask each of you to encourage your family, friends, colleagues and community members to attend. Comments will be gathered through our website as well. We look forward to seeing you on our tour of Missouri!

Please Contact Us !

Your Transformation staff is dedicated to providing you with the latest updates on Missouri's Transformation Initiative. Please contact us and let us know what information you need. Feel free to submit or suggest content for this e-newsletter. Our contact information is listed below.